

We claim:

1. A method for enhanced telephone caller identification wherein the caller supplies information related to the call, the method comprising the steps of:
  - 5 receiving calling information to initiate a telephone call;
  - determining whether caller has supplied information related to the call in addition to telephone number;
  - storing the information when there is determination that the caller has supplied additional information about the telephone call;
  - 10 transmitting the calling information to the destination of the telephone entered by the caller; and
  - displaying the information supplied by the caller at the destination of location of the call.
- 15 2. The method as described in claim 1 wherein said determining step further comprises detecting whether the caller has indicated additional information is submitted with the call.
3. The method as described in claim 2 further comprising after said detecting step,
  - 20 the step of formatting the information supplied by the caller when the determination is that the caller has supplied additional information.
4. The method as described in claim 3 wherein said information formatting step further comprises:
  - 25 creating a record having a plurality of fields; and
  - reading the information supplied by the caller and verifying the supplied information to determine whether the supplied information for each field of the record is valid.
- 30 5. The method as described in claim 4 wherein said storing step further comprises storing the verified information in the appropriate field in the record.

6. The method as described in claim 5 wherein said displaying step further comprises the steps of:

detecting an incoming call with a record containing additional information about the call;

5 reading the various sets of information contained in the fields in the record;  
convert the information in the record into a message for display based on the code of the message type field and the content of the message field; and  
displaying the converted information on the screen of the recipient.

10 7. The method as described in claim 6 wherein said converting step further comprises:

reading a message field from the record;

determining the content of the message field;

reading the content field associated the message field;

15 determining the message associated with the content of the message field; and  
displaying the message associated with the content of the message field.

8. The method as described in claim 7 wherein said message-determining step further comprises matching the content of the message field with a set of corresponding  
20 caller identifiers.

9. The method as described in claim 7 wherein said message-determining step for a text message supplied by the caller further comprises determining each character in the message by comparing the number of tones to a set of alpha-numeric characters, each  
25 character corresponding to a specific number of a touch tone.

10. The method as described in claim 1 whereas said displaying step further comprises the steps of:

detecting an additional message flag during an attempt to connect with the recipient telephone;

5 reading the fields of a record during the connection attempt;

detecting the message code for an additional message;

reading the content of the message field for the additional message;

converting the content of the message field into a message, said conversion being based on the message type and the content of the message field; and

10 displaying the converted message on the screen at the recipient location as the connection attempt occurs.

11. A computer program product in a computer readable medium for enhanced telephone caller identification wherein the caller supplies information related to the call,

15 the program comprising:

instructions for receiving calling information to initiate a telephone call;

instructions for determining whether caller has supplied information related to the call in addition to telephone number;

20 instructions for storing the information when there is determination that the caller has supplied additional information about the telephone call;

instructions for transmitting the calling information to the destination of the telephone entered by the caller; and

instructions for displaying the information supplied by the caller at the destination of location of the call.

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12. The computer program product as described in claim 11 wherein said determining instructions further comprise instructions for detecting whether the caller has indicated additional information is submitted with the call.

30 13. The computer program product as described in claim 12 further comprising after said detecting instructions, instructions for formatting the information supplied by the caller when the determination is that the caller has supplied additional information.

14. The computer program product as described in claim 13 wherein said information formatting instructions further comprise instructions for:

creating a record having a plurality of fields; and

5 reading the information supplied by the caller and verifying the supplied information to determine whether the supplied information for each field of the record is valid.

15. The computer program product as described in claim 14 wherein said storing  
10 instructions further comprise instructions for storing the verified information in the appropriate field in the record.

16. The computer program product as described in claim 15 wherein said displaying instructions further comprise instructions for:

15 detecting an incoming call with a record containing additional information about the call;

reading the various sets of information contained in the fields in the record;

convert the information in the record into a message for display based on the code of the message type field and the content of the message field; and

20 displaying the converted information on the screen of the recipient.

17. The computer program product as described in claim 16 wherein said converting instructions further comprise instructions for:

reading a message field from the record;

25 determining the content of the message field;

reading the content field associated the message field;

determining the message associated with the content of the message field; and

displaying the message associated with the content of the message field.

18. The computer program product as described in claim 17 wherein said message-determining instructions further comprise matching the content of the message field with a set of corresponding caller identifiers.

5 19. The computer program product as described in claim 17 wherein said message-determining instructions for a text message supplied by the caller further comprise instructions for determining each character in the message by comparing the number of tones to a set of alpha-numeric characters, each character corresponding to a specific number of a touch tone.

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20. The computer program product as described in claim 11 whereas said displaying instructions further comprise instructions for:

detecting an additional message flag during an attempt to connect with the recipient telephone;

15 reading the fields of a record during the connection attempt;

detecting the message code for an additional message;

reading the content of the message field for the additional message;

converting the content of the message field into a message, said conversion being based on the message type and the content of the message field; and

20 displaying the converted message on the screen at the recipient location as the connection attempt occurs.